

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 OES-07 SOE-02
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 PA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 SAB-02 /087 W
-----014218 081611Z /53

R 080910Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6436
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
SECDEF WASH DC
DIA WASH DC
CNO WASH DC
CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
USNMR SHAPE BE
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
COMIDEASTFOR
COMSIXTHFLT
JCS WASH DC

S E C R E T CAIRO 07539

E.O. 22652: GDS
TAGS: OCLR, US, EG
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR POWERED WARSHIP (NPW) TRANSIT OF
- THE SUEZ CANAL

REF: (A) CAIRO 7257, (B) CAIRO 7166, (C) STATE 23171

1. GAMASY TOLD ME YESTERDAY THAT HE HAD THAT DAY SENT
REPORT OF OUR PERTINENT CONVERSATION (REF B) TO FONMIN
KAMEL WITH RECOMMENDATION THAT MFA, IN ITS ROLE OF
INTER-MINISTERIAL COORDINATOR, CONVENE MEETING OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF CONCERNED GOE MINISTRIES TO DISCUSS
REFERENCE SUBJECT. HE AGAIN ASSURED ME THAT WHEN
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MEETING TAKES PLACE, MINDEFENSE REP WILL BE INSTRUCTED
SUPPORT PRINCIPLE OF FREE PASSAGE OF NPW'S PROVIDED
ADEQUATE SAFETY ASSURANCES ARE GIVEN. I TOLD GAMASY
THAT I HAD ALSO DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH KAMEL AND
MINSTATE GHALI.

2. IN LIGHT GHALI'S POINT THAT ANY GOE DECISION TO

ALLOW NPW TRANSIT OF SUEZ CANAL WILL HAVE TO APPLY TO ALL NATIONS HAVING NPW'S (PARA 5, REF A), AND HIS QUERY ABOUT SAFETY DESIGN AND OPERATION OF BRITISH, FRENCH AND SOVIET NPW'S (WHICH I WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO ANSWER), THOUGHT OCCURS TO ME THAT IT MIGHT BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD PROVIDE GOE WITH INFORMATION ABOUT HOW WE HANDLE TRANSIT OF BRITISH, FRENCH OR SOVIET NPW'S THROUGH PANAMA CANAL. SPECIFICALLY, DO WE REQUIRE A UNILATERAL ASSURANCE SIMILAR TO OUR STANDARD STATEMENT TO COVER SAFETY ASPECT? IF SO, WHAT TYPE STATEMENTS DO THESE GOVERNMENTS PROVIDE? BELIEVE THAT PROVIDING SUCH INFORMATION PRIOR TO GOE INTER-MINISTERIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS REFERENCE SUBJECT COULD HELP SHAPE GOE THINKING ON HOW THIS MATTER SHOULD BE HANDLED WITH RESPECT SUEZ CANAL.

3. I AM NOW SCHEDULED TO SEE DEPUTY PRIMIN AHMED SULTAN ON SATURDAY, AT WHICH TIME I WILL DISCUSS REFERENCE SUBJECT WITH HIM. EILTS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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